

# ***MEDIA RELEASE***

## **SBA SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT OFFICE**

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### **Charleston-Area Firm Is Runner-up 2008 SBA Small Business Person of the Year for South Carolina**

**CHARLESTON, S.C.** – Trudi A. Griffith, founder and CEO of AccuScribe Transcription Solutions LLC in Moncks Corner, is the runner-up 2008 U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Small Business Person of the Year for South Carolina. Griffith was nominated by Mary Dickerson, Business Consultant with the South Carolina Women’s Business Center (SCWBC), a resource partner of the SBA.

A medical transcriptionist since 1973, Griffith started AccuScribe Transcription Solutions from her home in 1996 when two local physicians offered her a job transcribing medical records. Soon after starting her company, she noticed that many recent graduates trained in the transcription field were unable to find employment without hands-on experience. Griffith made it AccuScribe’s mission to help students gain the necessary experience by employing them as subcontractors, even offering them staff positions with her company based on demonstrated skill.

“Using her acquired skill sets, she not only identified a critical need in the business community for more trained medical transcriptionists, she put her talents to work by creating educational opportunities for those wanting to enter the field,” said Haidee Clark Stith, SCWBC Executive Director.

Today, AccuScribe serves hospital clinics and university teaching hospitals nationwide and has 40 employees and 300 independent contractors. True to its roots, the company maintains internship programs and actively recruits new graduates from more than 20 colleges and training programs across the country. With such ready access to new medical transcriptionists, AccuScribe has continued to grow every year in a time when other transcription companies have been struggling with employment issues.

The company’s steady growth is fueled by a selective process that matches the needs of potential clients to both AccuScribe’s abilities and its own needs. Resulting customer satisfaction is high, and AccuScribe garners many clients from word-of-mouth referrals.

Griffith received assistance from the SCWBC, which helped her with federal contracting and provided marketing and networking counseling to help AccuScribe spread its message about the need for trained transcriptionists across the nation.

In September 2007, Griffith and an AccuScribe colleague traveled to China as People-to-People Ambassadors for healthcare documentation, where they addressed more than 200 hospital and government officials.

*Trudi Griffith will be honored at the SBA South Carolina District Office’s small business awards ceremony, part of the Salute to Small Business on Tuesday, April 1, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.*

*All SBA programs and services are provided on a non-discriminatory basis.*